

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: OVIP (BREZHNEV), MARR, ETRD, UR, US, JA

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR USHIBA'S FAREWELL CALL ON SEC STATE

1. DURING AMB USHIBA'S FAREWELL CALL JUNE 27, SECSTATE MADE WARM STATEMENT OF PRAISE FOR EFFECTIVE JOB USHIBA HAD DONE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN IN UNITED STATES. IN REFERRING TO BASICALLY GOOD RELATIONS NOW EXISTING BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES, SECSTATE VOLUNTEERED BELIEF THAT WHAT JAPAN HAS DONE TO AMELIORATE TRADE IMBALANCE NOT FULLY APPRECIATED AND THAT HE INTENDED TO MAKE EFFORT TO RECTIFY THIS SITUATION.

2. IN RESPONSE USHIBA'S QUERY, ALTHOUGH PRESSED FOR TIME, SECSTATE PROVIDED BRIEF RUNDOWN ON BREZHNEV VISIT. ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR FULLER BRIEFING OF USHIBA ALONG LINES SECSTATE'S PRESENTATION TO NATO AMBASSADORS.

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3. SECSTATE ASSURED USHIBA THAT OUTCOME BREZHNEV DISCUSSIONS NO WAY DETRIMENTAL TO JAPANESE INTERESTS. AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR SHOULD HE BELIEVED BE HELPFUL IN CONTEXT US- JAPAN SECURITY RELATIONSHIP SINCE, WITH ALLIES LIKE JAPAN IN MIND, US HAD SPECIFICALLY INSISTED ON PROVISIONS IN AGREEMENT

THAT NEITHER SIDE WOULD USE FORCE OR THREAT OF FORCE AGAINST ALLY OF THE OTHER AND THAT EXISTING ALLIANCES OF EACH WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT. AGREEMENTS ON TRADE AND AGRICULTURE HAD PROCEEDED IN SENSIBLE AND ORDERLY WAY BUT FULL EFFECT REMAINS TO BE SEEN SINCE AGREEMENTS ESSENTIALLY INVOLVE PRIVATE BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS AND PROVIDED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON AD HOC BASIS. CLIMATE OF CONVERSATIONS HAD BEEN ENTIRELY FRIENDLY, THERE HAD BEEN NO TENSE MOMENTS AND BREZHNEV HAD PROVEN TO BE SURPRISINGLY EFFECTIVE SHOWMAN IN PUBLIC AND TV APPEARANCES.

4. USHIBA REFLECTED CONCERN IN TOKYO ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WOULD MAKE US DETERRENT LESS EFFECTIVE AND MST THEREFORE LESS VALUABLE, AS OPPOSITION PARTIES HAD ALREADY CHARGED. SECSTATE ASSURED HIM THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE THE CASE SINCE AGREEMENT REACHED AGAINST BACKDROP OF EXPECTATIONS THAT ALLIANCES WILL CONTINUE AND US HAD ACHIEVED PURPOSE OF GETTING COMMITMENT AGAINST THREAT OR USE OF FORCE AND FOR CONSULTATION IN EVENT THREAT SHOULD DEVELOP.

ROGERS

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